

**LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER
SCHOOL ORDER
LHO 02/26/21**

This Emergency Public Health Order is issued to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Wyandotte County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119, K.S.A. 65-129b, K.S.A. 65-202 and other applicable laws or regulations.

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b to immediately exercise and maintain supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine and disinfection are duly enforced; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in Kansas and Wyandotte County continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property and the public peace; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government, the State of Kansas and the Unified Government of Kansas City/Wyandotte County, Kansas have all entered declarations that a disaster had occurred, acknowledging the threat within Wyandotte County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States, State of Kansas and Wyandotte County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, has been confirmed in Kansas and that in Wyandotte County the number of confirmed cases, related deaths and positivity rates exceed that of other counties in the State as well as the metro area, and the steps necessary to prevent its spread vary based upon the locality thereby requiring a specific, measured and phased approach determined by data applicable to Wyandotte County, Kansas; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer, pursuant to the above that:

1. LHO 09/04/20 which previously prohibited certain contact athletic activities is hereby rescinded. This Order rescinds and replaces LHO 09/04/20 and encompass all current requirements for the healthy participation in athletics.
2. LHO 6/27/20 and LHO 11/20/20 remain in full force and effect and are incorporated herein. Under LHO 6/27/20 and LHO 11/20/20 strict mask and 6-foot social distancing requirements will continue to be reinforced and required for all players, coaches, staff, and spectators while on sidelines, in locker rooms, in the gym, in stands, while practicing and at all times while not in actual competition.

3. There are known risk mitigation strategies that make sports play and all close contact somewhat safer. Based on the successes and lessons learned from local athletic teams and across the United States, the following options are available to club, league, school and college teams that wish to continue with sports play at this time:

Players may unmask to engage in sports competition or practice but must wear a mask over nose and mouth at all times on the sideline, locker room, in meetings, or any time not on the field/court. Coaches, trainers, scorekeepers, referees, fans and all others observing sports are not exempt from LHO 06/27/20 and must wear masks at all times. It is highly recommended that everyone participating in sporting events, including players, fans, coaches, etc., wear a high-quality mask in accordance with the CDC's recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

- a. **Players are exempted from LHO 06/27/20 and may take masks off during sports competition and practice if ALL of the following requirements are met:**
 - i. College and high school aged players and their coaching staffs must test negative, by PCR, once per week and provide results to their team coach/sponsor. Coaches/sponsors will maintain results for all team members for at least one year and provide them to organizational leadership or Health Department staff on a periodic basis if requested.
 1. Club, recreational and informal sports are exempted from this rule, but it is highly recommended that individuals engaging in these non-school sports complete and have negative PCR testing at least week to protect teammates.
 - ii. Players with COVID-19 symptoms must notify their coach immediately and are not permitted to attend practice or play. They should isolate for the duration of their symptoms and should be tested for COVID-19 immediately. Should they test positive they must follow standard Wyandotte County isolation requirements.
 - iii. **If a player is positive for COVID-19, the program must notify the UG Public Health Department immediately.** At that time, the team will be required to quarantine all team members and others with close contact for 14-days from the 1st day the positive player would have been considered contagious (48 hours prior to symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, positive test date). All those quarantining should be tested for COVID-19 7-9 days after the first day of potential exposure. The team coach/organizer must cooperate with contact tracing efforts of the Unified Government Health Department.

- iv. It is highly recommended that players and coaching staff traveling into Wyandotte County for college or high school sports competitions or practices have a negative PCR COVID-19 test 72-hours prior to the game or practice.
 1. Players or coaches from other jurisdictions are not permitted to travel to Wyandotte County with their team or have any contact with any person outside of those in their own household if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
 2. Players travelling into Wyandotte County for competition should not have any contact with the Wyandotte County team when not actively engaging in the competition.
4. LHO 1/4/21 is amended as follows: It is strongly recommended that all indoor singing, choir, or band activity involving brass or woodwind instruments remain suspended at this time, but the activities will be permitted if the following are adhered to:
 - i. Any high school or college students, teachers, and conductors that chooses to participate in school-sanctioned singing, choir, or band practice or performance is required to have a negative PCR COVID-19 test weekly.
 - ii. Individuals engaging in indoor singing with any organization or school are required to wear masks at all times.
 - iii. Masks must be worn while playing all instruments that allow for masking such as drums or string instruments.
 - iv. Eight feet of social distancing must be maintained between all participants at all times.
 - v. It is recommended that all instrument covers that reduce risk of salivary aerosolization be used at all times.
 - vi. It is recommended that participants in these activities from all other grade levels and organizations also have a negative PCR COVID-19 test weekly.
 - vii. Should a band or choir member test positive for COVID-19, the director/organizer must cooperate with contact tracing efforts of the Unified Government Health Department
5. This Order becomes effective at 12:01pm **February 26, 2021** and remains in effect until conditions in Wyandotte County are such to warrant a change or until the Local Health Officer determines revocation of this Order is appropriate.
6. This Order may be supplemented or modified as required for the effective and efficient

management and control of the Coronavirus epidemic in the County by further order or direction of the Wyandotte County Board of Public Health or by the Wyandotte County Local Health Officer, as applicable.

7. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b, any health inspector, sheriff, deputy sheriff or other law enforcement officer of any political subdivision within Wyandotte County, Kansas is hereby ordered to assist in the execution or enforcement of this Order, as amended or modified, as well as all other orders of the Local Health Officer not otherwise rescinded or superseded.

8. Violation of this Order is a violation of Ordinance 17-7 and is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and a 30-day jail sentence.

9. This Order shall be known and referred to as LHO 02/26/21.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 25th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "K. Allen Greiner" with "M.D." written in smaller letters to the right. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

K. Allen Greiner M.D., M.P.H.
Local Health Officer
Wyandotte County, Kansas